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influence (pp. 107-110), but, on the whole, it is plain that these chapters have not received the author's critical attention. Happily, the book can justify itself without them.

The style is always simple and direct, and—despite the extreme compression and consequent occasional suppression of needed transitions—not without charm. Much of this necessary compression is accomplished with utmost skill (though it is provoking, when a single line more now and then would focus some important consideration that is left indistinct, to see five lines go to the probable time and place of the birth of Columbus). A page suffices for the inter-colonial wars down to the final struggle, and probably a like sacrifice of military detail, or else a more scientific study of selected campaigns, might with profit have marked the treatment of other wars. The two-page summary of strategic conditions and problems in 1861 is admirable, but the skeleton campaigns that strew the next forty pages contain little not as vainly attempted in more elementary books. They have too little substance to be of value in themselves, and too much if their purpose is to illuminate political movements. Such a volume, it would seem, should either study strategy or let it alone. One more criticism, and a serious one, concerns the plan of arrangement. The preface and the table of contents promise a reasonable degree of grouping by topics, and the condensation of the narrative requires it; but, though the author has apparently designed a compromise, in practice he never permits the logical sequence of events to impair the sanctity of intact presidential administrations. The resulting repetition adds no emphasis; it blurs.

It should be added that the illustrative material is abundant and of greater interest and value than that in any similar work. The eighty maps and tables and half of the hundred illustrations could hardly be bettered. The common-place pictures of public men, comprising the other half, lack any indication of their source, but are otherwise as good—and as bad—as text-books usually give. A conspicuous merit in mechanical make-up is the good taste in indicating a change of subject by effective marginal catch-words instead of by startling and defacing black-cap headings of paragraphs.

W. M. WEST.

*Calendar of State Papers, Colonial Series, America and West Indies, 1681-1685.* Edited by the Hon. J. W. FORTESCUE. (London: Eyre and Spottiswoode. 1898. Pp. lv, 828.)

THE records contained in this volume of the *Calendar* cover a period in which England had decided upon a more resolute policy toward the American colonies than she had hitherto pursued. This course was prompted by a clearer recognition of the rapid growth in their wealth and population. It would be difficult to say which was the more eager to enjoy the benefit of this growth—the English Exchequer, or the English shopkeeper. Both looked upon the colonial opposition to being fleeced as the unreasonableness of refractory, or the disloyalty of rebel-

lions, subjects, which deserved to be punished, either by the revocation of ancient charters, or by imprisonment in the local or English jails, or by a summary suspension from the gallows.

Throughout this volume there crops out that contempt for the provincial, which is one of the striking traits of the English officer and soldier in the great French and Indian War and the War of the Revolution. It was very much as if the provincial, simply because he was a provincial, had no qualities which the Englishmen of those times held in respect. It is to be regretted that the present editor of the *Calendar* should have shown so plainly his sympathy with this feeling of the English authorities in that age of extreme official superciliousness and gross official tyranny. Thus he characterizes the assertion of the agents of Massachusetts that Edward Randolph had received colonial aid in the performance of his duties as the king's collector, as a "lie." Massachusetts was a dynasty of the Saints, "under which truth did not flourish in high places." Cranfield is quoted with approval as saying that "Connecticut and New Plymouth were as corrupt as Boston, and more ignorant," while the Rhode Islanders "were a mean and scandalous set of people." Not satisfied with the statement of Culpeper that North Carolina was the "sink of America," the editor further blackens the reputation of that colony by declaring that it was a "settlement of rogues."

This volume of the *Calendar* alone is sufficient to show the thorough selfishness of the policy of the English government toward the American colonies. If there was an English community upon which the Navigation Laws bore with the weight of an iron hand, it was Massachusetts. The sterility of its soil and the harshness of its climate had compelled that colony, at an early date, to rely chiefly upon commerce and the carrying trade for prosperity. A rigid observance of these laws would have meant, if not the ruin of every interest of its people, certainly the partial destruction. It is not strange that they should have resisted, out of court and in court, the enforcement of foreign laws which worked so radically to their own damage; that they should have threatened Randolph, not only with imprisonment, but also with the loss of his life; and that they should have gone so far even as to repair the fortifications of Boston to repel invasion. The only result of all this patriotic opposition to the Navigation Laws on their part was, that they were stigmatized as rebellious, and were deprived of their charter. The true economic interest of the colony was not for a moment considered.

The spirit exhibited in Massachusetts was to be seen in New Hampshire also. The energies of the people there were bent upon thwarting Randolph and his deputies. Not satisfied with this, they declined to recognize Robert Mason as proprietary, and they emphasized their opposition to his claims by the use of gunpowder, hot water and spits. Edward Gove, who headed a serious uprising, enjoyed the distinction of transportation to England and imprisonment in the Tower.

The selfishness and greed of the English government were shown in

Virginia by its positive refusal to listen to the universal demand for a short cessation of tobacco-culture, as the only means of raising the price of that staple, which had now sunk so low in value as to paralyze every interest in the colony. The reason for this action of the government was, that the revenues of the King would be curtailed by the falling off in the volume of English imports, which would follow. The people determined to take the matter into their own hands. What is known as the "Plant-Cutters' Rebellion" now occurred, one of the most curious protests against the action of constituted authority recorded in American history. Suppressed in the day-time, the plant-cutting went on by night. Dropped by the men in fear of punishment, it was taken up by the women. So general was the movement in Virginia, that soldiers were posted on the Maryland side of the Potomac to prevent the spread of the infection into that province. As every pecuniary interest of the colonies was made to lead into the channel of the King's revenues, it appears entirely characteristic that the ring-leaders of the rebellion should have been hung for treason, because in destroying the tobacco, they were cutting down the royal income by reducing the volume of English imports.

There is something whimsical in the complaint of Culpeper, who wrote, when displaced from the governorship, "what the wit of man can expect of a governor of Virginia beyond peace and quiet and a large crop of tobacco, I know not." In spite of this state of affairs, we find the House of Burgesses, a short time afterwards, in a protest against injustice, addressing the King in a manner that caused great indignation at Whitehall. Such indignation, however, seems to have been always aroused there if the colonial victim failed to lick the hand raised to appropriate its revenues.

PHILIP ALEXANDER BRUCE.

*The Family of William Penn, Founder of Pennsylvania: Ancestry and Descendants.* By HOWARD M. JENKINS. (Philadelphia: The Author. 1899. Pp. x, 260.)

IN compiling *The Family of William Penn* Howard M. Jenkins, than whom there could be no one better equipped for such a congenial task, has made an important contribution to the not over-cultivated field of literature devoted to the founder of the great Quaker province. What the author set out to do, and has done very well and exhaustively, was to trace both the ancestry and the descendants of Penn, as well as to give us not a few data anent the Founder himself. He modestly disclaims any intention of dipping into history or biography, yet it is but just to say that he has produced something that will inevitably interest the historian and enlist the attention of even the most phlegmatic genealogist. In short, Mr. Jenkins has displayed so much freshness of spirit and energy (virtues which go not always with this class of work) and he has put together a mass of facts in so orderly and comprehensive a form, that his book bids fair to become, and to remain for many years, *the* authority